

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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FM AMEMBASSY LONDON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1175

INFO USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L LONDON 07422

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: PFOR, NATO

SUBJECT: NATO SUMMIT DECLARATION

REF: STATE 114052

1. SINCE AMBASSADOR IS ON OFFICIAL VISIT TO SCOTLAND, WE SPOKE TO TICKELL TODAY ABOUT SONNENFEDLT'S SUGGESTION THAT BRITISH MIGHT SUPPORT IS DRAFT SUMMIT DECLARATION IN CAPITALS.

2. TICKELL DOUBTED UTILITY OF BRITISH RAISING MATTER IN CAPITALS AT LEAST AT THIS TIME. HE WAS CONCERNED THAT BRITISH DEMARCHES ON HEELS US APPROACHES MIGHT ONLY SERVE TO HARDEN POSITIONS OF THOSE COUNTRIES (MAINLY FRENCH) WHICH HAVE A STAKE IN BELGIAN DRAFT. THE BEST APPROACH IN TICKELL'S VIEW IS TO ALLOW NORMAL DIPLOMATIC PROCESS WORK IN BRUSSELS. HE STRESSED BRITISH PREFERENCE FOR IS DRAFT PARTICULARLY SINCE IT SETS OUT SO WELL THE PURPOSES OF THE SUMMIT AND THE COMMITMENT TO THE COMMON DEFENSE. BUT HE THOUGHT COMPROMISE LANGUAGE COULD AND SHOULD BE WORKED OUT WHICH PRESERVES FORCEFULNESS OF IS DRAFT AND ACCOMMODATES ADHERENTS OF BELGIAN PAPER.

3. TICKELL SAID TELEGRAM IS BEING SENT TODAY TO UK EMBASSY WASHINGTON TO SPEAK TO THE DEPARTMENT IN FORE-GOING SENSE.

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